

Remarks

The present Amendment supplements the Amendment After Final previously filed on October 6, 2004 and entered by the RCE request filed on January 6, 2005 in connection with the present application. Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. By this reply, claims 27-30 have been added.

Response to the Examiner's Advisory Action dated November 16, 2004

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner states that the features that are argued in Applicants' Amendment After Final filed on October 6, 2004 are not recited clearly in the claims and thus maintained the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejections and the prior art rejections. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the argued features were already clearly recited in the claims. For example, the feature "writing rows in the same order in said plurality of data blocks re-arranged in said reordering step, to the storage medium sequentially on row-by-row basis" recited in previously presented claim 1, describes the process of sequentially recording the first row of the first data block and the first row of the second data block, and then the second row of the first data block and the second row of the second data block, and so on. This feature and similarly the feature of combining the data blocks into one ECC block are clearly absent from any prior art of record and thus the 35 U.S.C. § 112 and prior art rejections should be overcome.

In the alternative, without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in rejecting the claims, only to expedite prosecution, the claims hereby

have been amended to further clarify the invention as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, the rejections should be overcome.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and earnestly solicit an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By Esther H. Chong
Esther H. Chong, #40,953

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

JTE/EHC:sld